

Message Text

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ACTION NRC-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 OES-07 FEA-00

DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 /096 W

-----129921 071542Z /46

P 071454Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3221

INFO USERDA HQ WASHDC PRIORITY

USERDA HQ GERMANTOWN PRIORITY

UNCLAS VIENNA 8085

USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT AND NRC

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: IAEA, TECH, PARM

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MEETING/ENHANCED STORAGE OF SPENT FUEL

REF: (A) STAT 195079, (B) STATE 159177

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT REFTEL A, MISSION CONVEYED
FORMAL QUERY TO AGENCY RE INTEREST IN CO-SPSORING
SUBJECT MEETING IN LETTER TO DDG ZHELUEV
DATED AUGUST 19, 1977.

2. WE HAVE OBTAINED FOLLOWING STAFF LEVEL INFORMAL
REACTIONS:

A. DUE TO HEAVY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS DURING REMAINDER
OF THIS YEAR, AGENCY TECHNICAL STAFF WILL BE HEAVILY

OCCUPIED, EVEN IN ABSENCE OF ANY INFCE ACTIVITIES IN
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WHICH AGENCY MAY BECOME INVOLVED.

B. AGENCY IS NEARING END OF ITS CURRENT BUDGET YEAR
(CY 1977) FACING NEED FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION
OF \$2.5-\$3 MILLION DUE PRIMARILY TO DECLINE IN VALUE
OF U.S. DOLLAR VIS-A-VIS AUSTRIAN SCHILLING. EVEN
WITHOUT THIS FACTOR, HOWEVER, AGENCY TECHNICAL DIVISION

CONCERNED HAS NO RPT NO FUNDS PROGRAMMED FOR THIS UNPLANNED ACTIVITY TO COVER COSTS OF SENDING ANY OF ITS STAFF OR ANY DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE BE UNABLE TO ATTEND DUE TO FOREIGN CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS, AND THERE IS INSUFFICIENT SLACK REMAINING IN SHORT PERIOD LEFT THIS YEAR TO CONSIDER RE-PROGRAMMING FUNDS. FYI. SEVERAL AGENCY PROGRAMS MAY BE FINANCIALLY SQUEEZED DURING RE-MAINDER OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR. END FYI.

C. AGENCY IS VERY INTERESTED IN THE MEETING PROPOSED BY USNRC AND WOULD LIKE TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH IT, BUT IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, AGENCY WONDERS IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SHIFT TIMING OF MEETING TO FEBRUARY OF NEXT YEAR. AGENCY BELIEVES THAT THIS WOULD ALSO

PERMIT BETTER PLANNING FOR THE MEETING AND ENHANCE PROSPECTS FOR BETTER AND MORE MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION.

D. IF NRC IS WILLING TO POSTPONE MEETING AS SUGGESTED ABOVE, AGENCY SUGGESTS THAT IT "COOPERATE" WITH NRC IN CONDUCTING MEETING, RATHER THAN "CO-SPONSORING" IT, SINCE LATTER CARRIES WITH IT CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS FOR AGENCY, SUCH AS REQUIRING SIMULTANEOUS

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INTERPRETATION IN AGENCY'S FOUR OFFICIAL LANGUAGES, WHICH AGENEY ASSUMES IS NOT RPT NOT CONTEMPLATED BY NRC. AGENCY WOULD STILL ISSUE INVITATIONS TO MEMBER STATE AND OFFER TO COVER TRAVEL COSTS FOR REPRESENTATIVES FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN NEED AND WHO OTHERWISE WOULD BE UNABLE TO ATTEND.

3. FOREGOING VIEWS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ENDORSED BY HIGHER LEVELS IN AGENCY.

4. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE SOONEST AS TO WHETHER OR NOT NRC IS PREPARED TO DEFER MEETING UNTIL SOMETIME IN FEBRUARY. LABOWITZ

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Decapton Note:
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